

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I missed the below vote. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 278.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE AND
LEGACY OF BOB JULIANO**HON. BOBBY L. RUSH**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Mr. RUSH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and legacy of Bob Juliano, an ally of the working man and a friend to so many who worked with him.

Juliano, who referred to himself as "Cool Bobby J", was born and raised in the west side of Chicago—a city he dearly loved. He started his career in the hospitality industry in Chicago but moved to Washington to represent the legislative interests of the Hotel and Restaurant Employees International Union.

He made strong relationship with Members on both sides of the aisle and from different parts of the country. Juliano's success in D.C. was driven by the fact that he didn't view the Members by the letters next to their names, but how each elected official cared about their constituents and everyday people. Juliano easily related to people as he advocated for improving the lives of our constituents, which endeared him to us. He managed relationships beautifully, not just Members of the House and Senate, but our Congressional office staff as well.

True to the spirit of his role, Juliano also seemed to know every service worker on the Hill, whom he extended the same level of kindness and respect as he would show leadership. This embodied why we so deeply admired him, because he valued each person's work and showed it.

He made strong ties to members of the Congressional Black Caucus, because his devotion to people shined through in how he advocated about issues, especially when it came to the fight for equality. Bob always maintained that civil rights was the defining issue of our generation.

The relationships he established and maintained around the Hill helped him shepherd labor legislation through both chambers, including when it came to issues of middle-class, hardworking Americans and protecting health care of hospitality workers.

A true Chicagoan, he never forgot where he came from and who helped him along the way. Although he passed last year, his spirit and memory still live on with everyone he worked with in D.C., reminding all of us of the importance of bipartisanship and treating others with respect.

Madam Speaker, it was a blessing to know him, and I am honored to have been able to call him a friend. My thoughts are with him, his family, and all who loved him.

HONORING GENERAL MICHAEL X.
GARRETT FOR 38 YEARS OF
MILITARY SERVICE**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Mr. HUDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor U.S. Army General Michael X. Garrett for 38 years of dedicated military service, culminating with more than three years of distinguished service as the Commanding General of U.S. Army Forces Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

Gen. Garrett personifies a life of service. The son of an Army command sergeant major decorated for valor in the Vietnam War, Gen. Garrett began his own Army career in 1984 as an Infantry officer and served his first assignment within the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) where his father also served as the division's senior noncommissioned officer.

Gen. Garrett went on to serve his formative years as a lieutenant, captain, and major in the elite 75th Ranger Regiment, where he wore the scrolls of the regimental headquarters and each of its three ranger battalions. He was in command of an airborne infantry battalion at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, on Sept. 11, 2001, when our Nation was thrust into the longest period of war in its history. Through these years of combat, Gen. Garrett led America's sons and daughters through multiple deployments in the Middle East, including his first to Afghanistan less than a year after Sept. 11 as a member of Fort Bragg's XVIII Airborne Corps, and later as commander of a newly formed Alaska-based airborne brigade which fought valiantly through 15 months of heavy combat in Iraq. As a general officer, he has led service members preparing for and serving in war from influential positions of responsibility, including as XVIII Airborne Corps and U.S. Central Command chief of staff, and as commanding general of U.S. Army Alaska, U.S. Army Central, and U.S. Army Forces Command.

On account of his exemplary service, Gen. Garrett has received many of our nation's most impressive distinctions and awards, including the Distinguished Service Medal, the Defense Superior Service Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster, the Legion of Merit with two oak leaf clusters, and the Bronze Star Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster, among many others. He is a proud Ranger, paratrooper, and Soldier, and has been named a Distinguished Member of the 75th Ranger Regiment. Gen. Garrett represents the best our nation has to offer, and we will look up to his leadership for generations to come.

As Fort Bragg's Congressman, I know I speak for our Nation and community when I say we are truly grateful for Gen. Garrett's exceptional service. I would like to offer my sincerest appreciation and wish him and his family success in all their future endeavors.

PASSING OF MARK FLANAGAN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Mr. COHEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay a special tribute to my friend and longtime supporter Mark Flanagan, known in Memphis as the Mayor of Midtown, who passed last week. Mr. Flanagan contributed immeasurably to our community, founding the Irish Eyes of Memphis pub crawl from downtown to Overton Square that produced an annual bonanza for the bars and businesses along the route. He had the original idea to develop the Cooper-Young neighborhood that now thrives with businesses and nightlife. Born in Washington, D.C., on March 13, 1943, he was the second oldest of nine children. Growing up in the District, he developed a lifelong love of politics, and was dubbed the Mayor of Adams Morgan, a D.C. neighborhood. (When he returned to D.C. to care after aging relatives, he was the Prince of Cleveland Park.) His father, Fripp Flanagan, was a close friend of House Speaker Thomas P. "Tip" O'Neill and the Kennedy family, especially Bobby Kennedy. He was proud of his Irish heritage and loved spending his summers in Lisdoonvarna, Ireland. He and the late Thomas "Silky" Sullivan started a barbecue contest in Fanore, Ireland, so the Irish would learn about Memphis barbecue. Mark attended East Carolina University and American University in D.C. His professional career included plywood retail sales, real estate, and restaurant investments as well as associations with the late restaurateurs Silky Sullivan, Bud Chittom and Thomas Boggs. He came to Memphis in 1968 and proceeded to have a positive impact on the city, and became a kind of Pied Piper to many D.C. fellas who were encouraged to move to Memphis, including Joe ("forehead") Dougherty; the Boland twins, Jim and Chris; William "Bill" (Gringo) McGaughey; Bob "Doctor" Harper; the Juice, former Navy SEAL O.J. Mitchell, and his brother Mike (Marcel), and Mark's beloved brother Dennis. In 1973, he founded the Memphis St. Patrick's Day Parade and Pub Crawl, the forerunner of the Beale Street Saint Patrick's Day Parade. He served on the boards of the Hollywood Child Care Center and the ACLU, on the Shelby County and State Democratic Executive Committees, and was a 1980 delegate for Ted Kennedy at the Democratic National Convention. He ran for Congress on the Democratic ticket in the '70s and '80s. A founding member of the Irish Eyes of Memphis, he was also active in the Memphis Irish Society. He worked with the late Irvin Salky on the first Beale Street Music Festival. He was active in Saving Overton Park and worked with Dr. David and Yvonne Acey on Memphis Honors Africa in April. Flanagan worked closely with me early in my career when I was the Memphis Police legal advisor, and together we petitioned the city to establish a 20 mile an hour speed limit to make Overton Square safely walkable. Mark had a huge heart and a larger personality. I extend my sincere condolences to his children, his siblings and his many friends. His was a life well-lived, and he will be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF KYLE HILL
FOR FIVE YEARS OF OUT-
STANDING SERVICE

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Ms. DELBENE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to thank Kyle Hill for nearly five years of invaluable service to my office and my constituents in Washington's 1st Congressional District.

Kyle joined my office as a Legislative Assistant in October 2017 and soon after became my Legislative Director. Prior to coming to my office, Kyle worked for the Hon. Steve Israel of New York for four years as well.

In each of these roles, Kyle exceeded the mark and met the challenges that come with running a legislative team with his wealth of knowledge, quick wit, and joyful personality. Over his tenure, he played an instrumental role in overseeing the smooth management of a fast-paced office and shaping internal processes—all while building lasting relationships with my team and those who had the pleasure of getting to know him. We all also deeply admire and are inspired by his commitment to reducing his carbon footprint by biking to work every day, regardless of the weather. Kyle has been an amazing leader, a terrific mentor, and a wonderful friend, and we will all sorely miss him.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Kyle Hill and wishing him the best in all of his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KAREN BASS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

Ms. BASS. Madam Speaker, earlier this afternoon, as a co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I was hosting more than 35 young people from all over the country at the National Shadow Day luncheon and I was absent from the first series of votes of the day in the House and missed Roll Call votes 279 and 280. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on both Roll Call No. 279, the motion to move the previous question on H. Res. 1191; and Roll Call No. 280, H. Res. 1191, the Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 7666—Restoring Hope for Mental Health and Well-Being Act of 2022, H.R. 5585—Advanced Research Projects Agency—Health Act, and H.R. 4176—LGBTQ+ Data Inclusion Act.

CALLING FOR STABILITY AND THE
CESSATION OF VIOLENCE AND
CONDEMNING ISIS-AFFILIATED
TERRORIST ACTIVITY IN NORTH-
ERN MOZAMBIQUE, INCLUDING
THE CABO DELGADO PROVINCE,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this resolution calling for the stability and the cessation of violence and condemning ISIS-affiliated terrorist activity in northern Mozambique.

For months, insurgents linked to the Islamic State have attacked innocent Mozambican citizens and soldiers in the region of Cabo Delgado.

The region is home to one of the world's richest natural gas reservoirs, making it the target of considerable attention for Islamic revolutionaries.

Since the early 2010s, a mixture of economic inequality, unemployment, and a religious movement have bred a strong, violent extremist organization called Ansar al-Sunna.

That movement is now characterized by cells of the Islamic State working to terrorize the Mozambican people, funded by illegal drug and ivory trading.

The violence has displaced nearly one million people and killed thousands of others.

The insurgents decimate villages, especially targeting Christian districts, while murdering civilians with terrifying callousness.

This resolution calls on the government of Mozambique, specifically President Filipe Nyusi, to finally take action to counter the extremism.

Under the status quo, people are killed for practicing their religion, and extremists have overrun all forms of policing in the Northern province.

A right to liberty and justice is not something designed only for Americans or those in the West. Every human being deserves an equitable chance to pursue a fulfilling, secure life.

That opportunity is being stripped away by deadly revolutionaries in Mozambique. It is time for this Congress to take a stand against an insurgency that has decimated lives since 2017.

As defenders of the defenseless, America must take a stand and pressure the Mozambican government to protect its own citizens.

CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF RWANDA
TO RELEASE PAUL
RUSESABAGINA ON HUMANI-
TARIAN GROUNDS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 21, 2022

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 892: Calling on the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to Release Paul Rusesabagina on Humanitarian Grounds.

The resolution calls on the government of Rwanda to immediately release Paul Rusesabagina on humanitarian grounds, ensure that he receives access to appropriate qualified medical professionals and all medical care, and permit him to return safely to the United States.

The resolution also urges the U.S. government in all interactions with the government of Rwanda to raise the case of Paul Rusesabagina and to press for his immediate release on humanitarian grounds.

Paul Rusesabagina is a 67-year-old cancer survivor who suffers from a cardiovascular disorder, and his permanent residency is in Texas.

He is also very special in the eyes of our entire nation, as he is a Presidential Medal of Freedom honoree.

He came to global prominence because he was the manager of the Hôtel des Mille Collines in Kigali, a hotel that provided safe haven to over 1,200 Hutu and Tutsi refugees during the 1994 Rwandan genocide.

In August 2020, Mr. Rusesabagina, on a flight meant to land in Burundi, was extrajudicially transferred to Kigali by the Rwandan government and put on trial.

He was immediately arrested, although the Rwandan government did not acknowledge his detention for three days during which he was reportedly subjected to torture.

Paul Rusesabagina was sentenced to 25 years in prison on September 20, 2021.

The rogue extrajudicial transfer of Mr. Rusesabagina from Texas to Rwanda, and the subsequent trial, have been widely criticized by human rights organizations for the lack of fair trial standards, including violations of attorney-client privilege.

Human Rights Watch called the trial "flawed" and "emblematic of the government's overreach and manipulation of the justice system."

The U.S. State Department said it was "concerned" about Rusesabagina's "lack of confidential, unimpeded access to his lawyers and relevant case documents and his initial lack of access to counsel."

His own daughters only get to speak to him for about five minutes once a week.

Mr. Rusesabagina has been a vocal critic of Rwandan President Paul Kagame, accusing the president of war crimes and human rights violations, and is suffering because of it.

Our Constitution was built with the belief that every person has the right to express political dissent.

An attack on free speech anywhere is an attack on our American values.

The reported lack of fair trial guarantees calls into question the fairness of the verdict and the lack of protections meant to be consistent with Rwanda's international commitment.

To allow a foreign government to abduct and hold hostage an American permanent resident without a fair trial is to turn our back on a fundamental rule of law and democracy.

I urge all my colleagues to support H. Res. 892, calling on the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to Release Paul Rusesabagina on Humanitarian Grounds.